

NEW YORK TIMES

Chile and the C.I.A.

To the Editor:

Your Sept. 16 editorial "The C.I.A. in Chile" places major emphasis on an alleged quotation of my use of the word "destabilization." This word appears in Representative Harrington's letter which discussed my testimony before the House Armed Services Committee.

When this story first appeared, I reexamined the transcript of the testimony and determined that the word "destabilize," in whatever grammatical form, does not appear.

I so informed your representative at that time, and I so stated publicly on Sept. 13 at a public meeting, attended by Representative Harrington, which was fully covered by your representative. To insure that no mere difference in semantics is involved, I added that "this term especially is not a fair description of our national policy from 1971 on of encouraging the continued existence of democratic forces looking toward future elections." Your editorial views on this matter are, of course, a matter for you alone to determine; I do protest, however, your assertion that I said something which I had taken pains to deny saying without giving any indication of such denial.

W. E. COLBY

Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, Sept. 16, 1974

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